

For further information

Contact **Brian Hauswirth**,

Public Information officer

Tele: 573/522-1118

Direct FAX: 573/751-4099

P.O. Box 236

Jefferson City MO 65102



*For Immediate Release...*

## *Corrections News*

September 27, 2007

### Steffen Chosen as Department September Employee of the Month

Kristie Steffen has been selected as the Missouri Department of Corrections Employee of the Month for September 2007. Steffen is employed as a Corrections Officer I (officer) at Fulton Reception and Diagnostic Center (FRDC). Steffen was nominated after several officers were involved in a high-risk transport of an offender during which an escape was attempted. While all of the officers involved followed proper procedure for a medical transport, several items that would have helped maintain safety and security during the transport weren't available to them. Officer Steffen subsequently took it upon herself to create a notebook of relevant hospital and security information and to gather the appropriate materials to enhance the security of future offender transports.

"You acquired the necessary materials from the warehouse and armory to make up complete transport bags containing all the potentially needed equipment," Corrections Department Director Larry Crawford wrote in a letter to Steffen. "You called the various hospitals, doctors and other Corrections Transport units to get proper procedures, addresses, directions and telephone contacts for each of the normal transports and assembled all of this in notebooks with the hospital packets and chronological logs. These bags have now become the standard transport bags for FRDC's entire offender outside escorts."

Crawford noted Steffen's initiative in creating the transport bags has made transports easier and has increased the safety and security for everyone.

Steffen has been employed with the Department of Corrections for three-and-a-half years and lives in Fulton.

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